Ordinance to stop repayment of farmers loans

3345. SHRI YADLAPAT1 VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Farmers Commission of Agriculture Experts in Andhra Pradesh has urged the Central Government to issue an Ordinance during the coming months, for stopping repayment of all loans borrowed from private financers or Government institutions by farmers, who have suffered due to crop failures, drought conditions and supply of spurious seeds, fertilizers and pesticides; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As reported by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, they are not aware of any such Commission.

(b) Does not arise.

Krishi Vigyan Mela

†3346. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 'Krishi Vigyan Mela' organised recently by ICAR, failed due to lack of interest by the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Indian farmers have rejected the bio-cultivation considering it hazardous; and

(d) if so, the details of measures being taken by Government in the interests of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The annual Krishi Vigyan Mela was organised recently by Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) during March 14-16,2002. About 15,000 farmers, development officials, extension functionaries, besides students and entrepreneurs, participated **in** the Mela.

The major attractions were display and sale of technology products and farm literatures, farmer-scientists interactions, Mahila Kisan Gosthi, and field visits.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.